

Doubters silenced by Double Blues

KYM MORGAN

STURT showed its onfield future in the AFL reserves era looks bright when it out-muscled Glenelg by 43 points at the Bay last night.

A young and largely home-grown Double Blues side absorbed a third-quarter Tigers challenge and defied predictions it would be the worst-affected local club after handing back a swag of players to the Crows over summer.

Veteran spearhead Matt Duldig had a night out at his former home, bagging six majors, but a host of homegrown 21- to 25-year-olds showed they could be ready to emerge from the shadow of Crow-listed players at Unley.

Luke Crocker, John Green-slade, Jack Stephens, Tom Harms and Levi Krause all impacted on the match at various times and could be ready to become consistent performers.

Adding to optimism was the performance of former Port Magpie Zane Kirkwood (36 touches, nine clearances) in his Sturt debut and the form of ruckman Angus Kurtze (15 possessions 53 hitouts). The pair worked beautifully in combination.

A new-look Bays outfit under incoming coach Nick Stevens left supporters frustrated, although the squad needs to be given time to gel.

The Bays were jumped in the opening term after Duldig bagged three opening-term goals - the third the result of a gather, neat turn and long bomb from 60m.

The Tigers worked their way back into the contest over the course of two quarters and took the lead when Ruory

STURT V GLENELG

STURT	84
4.2 5.4 8.7 12.12	
GLENELG	41
2.0 4.1 6.3 6.5	

BEST

Sturt: Kirkwood, Kurtz, Duldig, Coad, Stephens, Kane.

Glenelg: Lonergan, Agnew, Joseph, Nicholson.

GOALS

Sturt: Duldig 6, Krause, Coad 2, Calabrese.

Glenelg: Hooper 2, Muir, Thorp, Joseph, Kirkby.

UMPIRES

Andrew Crosby, Patrick, Lally, Sam Lowe

CROWD

4544 at Glenelg Oval.

Kirkby goaled at the 11-minute mark of the third term - but they made hard work of their attacking forays all night.

The opening quarter of the contest was full of intent from both midfields but largely scrappy. Duldig's three goals were partly answered by two majors from Andrew Hooper - both from advantage freekicks.

Most of the second term action occurred after the half-time siren, when a melee involving all 42 players broke out at the northern end. It was more of a push-and-shove, although Bays recruit Mitch Thorp and Sturt skipper Michael Coad emerged bloodied.

Glenelg made its move early in the third term but Kirkby's goal to give the Tigers the lead would signal a moment change. Sturt's industrious midfield and rebounding halfback line upped the ante and found Glenelg wanting.

REDLEGS V MAGPIES

NORWOOD	76
4.4 7.5 10.8 11.10	
MAGPIES	57
1.2 4.3 5.7 8.9	

BEST

Norwood: Panos, Dawe, Bode, Phillips, Webber, Murphy.

Port: Logan, Young, Summerton, Colquhoun, O'Shea, Gray.

GOALS

Norwood: Phillips 3; Newton, Bartlett 2; Evans, Bampton, Baulderstone, Murphy.

Port: Harvey 2; Summerton, Hitchcock, Haren, Stewart, Slattery, Neade.

UMPIRES

Medlin, Deboy, Schramm.

CROWD

6324 at Norwood Oval.

NORTH ADELAIDE V ADELAIDE

NORTH ADEL.	133
7.1 12.3 16.10 20.13	
ADELAIDE	86
2.3 5.6 6.11 12.14	

BEST

North: O'Keefe, Mitchell, Amato, Campbell, Thring, Alex Barns, Williams, Read.

Adelaide: Ellis Yolmen, Martin, Porplyzia, Battersby, Callinan, Cameron.

GOALS

North: L O'Keefe 5; Mitchell 4; Obst 3; Stokes 2; O'Brien, Barns, Amato, Thring, Shannon, Coombe
Adelaide: Davis Neale 3; Callinan 2; Ellis Yolmen, Atkins, Osborn, Cameron, Hurley Wellington, Martin, Shaw

INJURIES

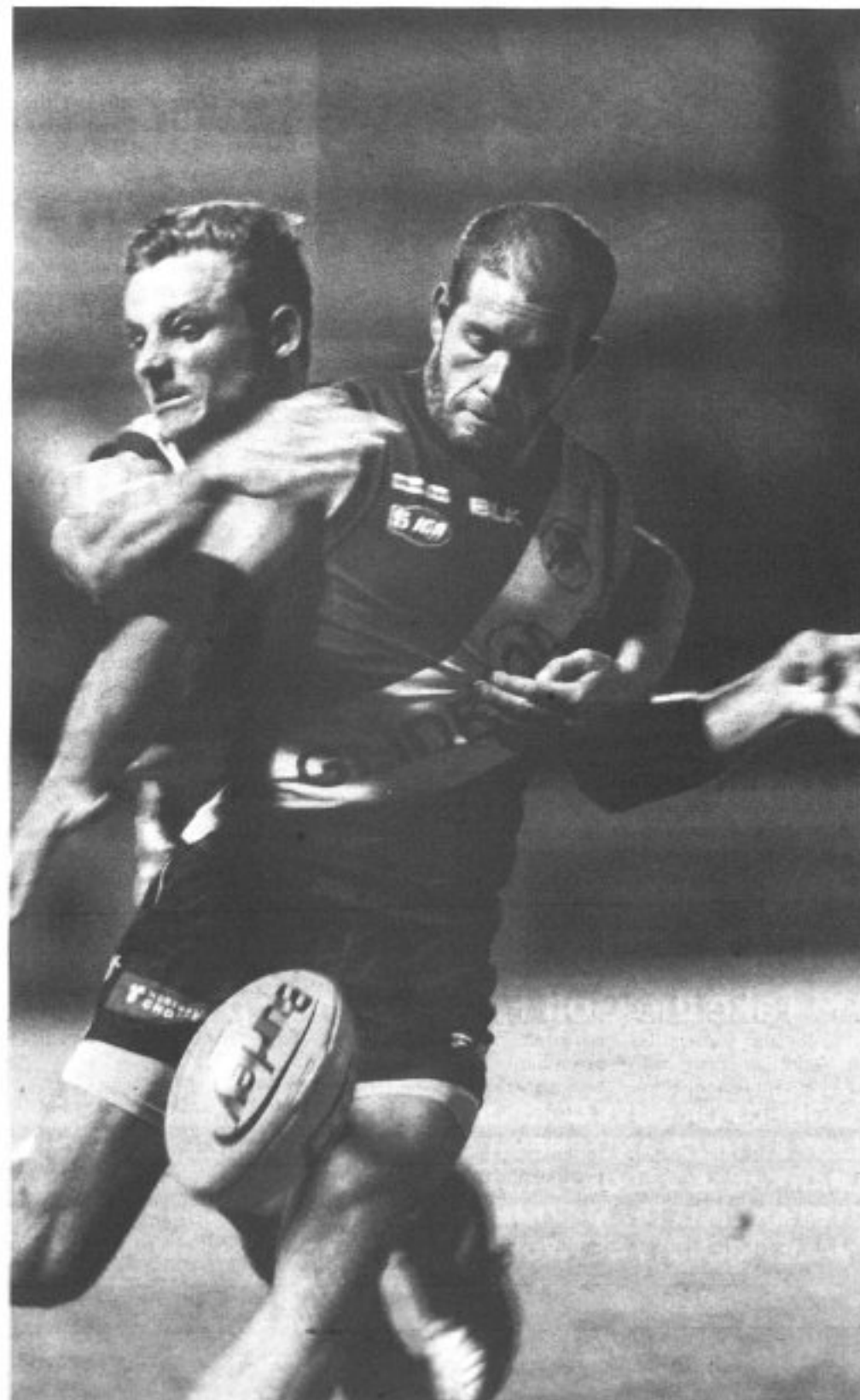
Adelaide: Porplyzia (back).

UMPIRES

Avon, Cook, Glouftsis.

CROWD

4015 at Prospect Oval.



FRANTIC: Glenelg's Lachlan Button kicks in front of Angus Kurtz. Picture: COREY SUTTON

EAGLES	4.0	7.5	8.8	12.11	83
CENTRAL DISTRICT	2.1	2.2	7.3	8.4	52

BEST Eagles Powell, von Bertouch, McGregor, Lewis, Borholm, Martyn. **Central** Glenn, Thomas, Hoskin, Williams, M White. **GOALS Eagles** McGregor 6, Wundke 3, Grocke, Goldsworthy, Lewis. **Central** Retzlaff 2, Glenn, Gilbee, Mabon, Nason, T Schiller, Barmby. **INJURIES/REPORTS Eagles** Ainger (shoulder), Grocke (reported for rough conduct). **Central** Symes (concussion). **CROWD** 2327 at Woodville Oval.

SOUTH ADELAIDE	4.4	7.8	11.12	14.16	100
WEST ADELAIDE	2.1	5.1	6.1	8.3	51

BEST South Brooksby, Eddy, Veide, Liddle, Dale, Thewlis, Macleod, West Schmidt, Macreadie, Beech, Homburg, Milne, Stevens. **GOALS South** Eddy 4, Rose 2, Dale, Macleod, Brooksby, Daniel, Liddle, Veide, Boyd, Bass, West Wong, Fisher 2, Beech, Silverlock, Macreadie, Newell. **CROWD** 1790 at Hickinbotham Oval.

SANFL LADDER ROUND 1

	P	W	L	For	Agst	Stk	Chg	%	Pts
Sturt	1	1	0	84	41	1W	-	67.2	2
South Adelaide	1	1	0	100	51	1W	-	66.2	2
Eagles	1	1	0	83	52	1W	-	61.5	2
North Adelaide	1	1	0	133	86	1W	-	60.7	2
Norwood	1	1	0	76	57	1W	-	57.1	2
Port Adelaide	1	0	1	57	76	1L	-	42.9	0
Adelaide	1	0	1	86	133	1L	-	39.3	0
Central District	1	0	1	52	83	1L	-	38.5	0
West Adelaide	1	0	1	51	100	1L	-	33.8	0
Glenelg	1	0	1	41	84	1L	-	32.8	0

As for Port Adelaide, any player not from the Magpies last year cannot have played at state league level for 18 months and it can pay one player (Henry Slattery) more than \$400 who is at least 28 and a former Magpies or Power player.

The regulations are to be reviewed at the end of this season.

The top-up players trained with the Crows twice weekly in the pre-season and those required for each game will join the team for the final session of the week.

Crows state league coach Heath Younie said an aim of the club was to provide more people with an opportunity to play at the highest level and get more players back into the SANFL.

"Part of the development of the listed players is to help train and educate our development (top-up) players," Younie said. "I

made it very clear - we did not want any segregation.

"We are really serious about winning. People say we are about development. From Monday to Friday there is a lot of development and Saturday is about implementing that development and the opportunity to play under real heat and intensity.

"Winning games is good for development. I'll argue until I'm blue that if you are winning you are developing players. Hawthorn and Geelong keep winning in the VFL.

"Try and tell the players 'this week we are going out to develop, don't worry about winning'. We want to play a certain way with a game style put in place by Brenton (Sanderson).

"It is a process and if you get them right the outcome will go the way you want."

Running obstacle course

How the Power and Crows changed the SANFL forever

WARREN PARTLAND

PORT Adelaide's entry in the state league had SANFL coaches concerned even before a ball was bounced in the pre-season.

The Alberton club was coming from a position of power compared to the Crows when compiling a list for its reserves side because of the existence of the Magpies.

Apart from having its listed personnel in the one team, rather than be spread throughout the competition as had been the case until this season, the Power was also able to keep genuine SANFL talent from last year's Magpies such as Steven Summerton and Aseri Raikiwasa as top-up players.

Maintaining players from last year's Magpie outfit also allowed the Power to deflect perceptions of a takeover.

The Magpies' pre-season form confirmed those fears coaches had whispered over the summer. After beating South Adelaide - which subsequently had impressive wins over Norwood, Sturt and Adelaide - the Magpies thrashed Central District and North Adelaide.

The matches were just trials and trial form can be deceiving - as proved by the Magpies' opening-round loss to the Redlegs on

CROWS AND PORT TOP-UP PLAYERS

CROWS: Will Paynter, Tom Carroll, Tyson Davis-Neale, Tom Hughes, Sam De Leonadis, Paul Marschall, Justin Smart, Sam Pfeiffer, Matthew Thompson, Bradley Merrett, Darcy Bailey, Gene Robinson, George Hurley-Wellington, Michael O'Malley, Tom Muir.
Top-up reserves - Matthew Wilson, Simon Muster, Ian Callinan, Nigel Osborn, Steven Clay, Jack Penfold, Jye De.

Zylva, Addison Burns, Samuel Tharaldsen, Trent Melville, Jack Grieger, Tom Kluvanek.
MAGPIES: Anthony Biemans, Angus Bruggemann, Danny Butcher, Ben Haren, Zachary Hawkins, Ciaran Hollingworth-Hughes, Jake Johansen, Aseri Raikiwasa, Jonathon Ross, Ben Sawford, Louis Sharrad, Henry Slattery, Steven Summerton, Matthew Venter, Robert Young.

Thursday night. But when the Magpies have as many as 16 listed players in the squad plus those classy top-ups for a game, they will be an imposing obstacle for any outfit.

However, it is a short-term bonus for the Magpies. Next year, Port will lose its zones and that advantage of having a pre-existing team from which to pluck players won't exist.

Port Adelaide will need to follow a similar path to the Crows, who gained top-up players from rival SANFL clubs, the country areas and the amateur competition. Both AFL clubs had to nominate 15 players as top-ups for this season who will be paid \$400 a

game.

All but Norwood and Central District nominated players for the Crows. If an SANFL club recalls a nominated player for its league side, that player cannot front for the Crows and the club must provide a replacement. A top-up player cannot be selected by the Crows for matches against that player's SANFL club.

Any player not from an SANFL club must not have played at state league level for at least 18 months - allowing former Bulldog Paul Marshall to sign - while the Crows can have one higher-paid player (Ian Callinan) who must be at least 28 and played for the AFC.